



**Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States ³/₄ 2002**

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future

BLM In the East



***. . . sustaining the health, diversity,
and productivity of the eastern public
lands for present and future generations.***



Bureau of Land Management Eastern States ^{3/4} 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future



Eastern States State Director
Mike Nedd

BLM in the East - Gateway to the West

In April, 2000, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Eastern States celebrated its 20th anniversary as a State Office and reaffirmed its mission as the Bureau's public land manager for the 31 States contiguous to and east of the Mississippi River. We manage approximately 30,000 surface acres of public land and more than 39 million acres of subsurface Federal mineral estate, representing not only the "BLM in the East" but also serving as the "Gateway to the West".

As BLM shapes its role as a national public land management agency, Eastern States, with almost two-thirds of the country's population and elected congressional officials in its area of jurisdiction, is uniquely positioned and plays a critical role in showcasing the Bureau's multiple use management to the vast eastern population who are, in many cases, unfamiliar with the important mission of BLM.

Our employees play a key role in adding value to the quality of life for the people they serve. This office is continually ranked as one of the top BLM offices in customer service surveys. We have developed and maintained an active, dynamic workforce that prides itself on diversity and solid work ethics. Each year, we recruit and train numerous students in an environment where they gain first-hand knowledge and experience to encourage them to pursue a career in natural resources management. Our volunteers contribute tens of thousands of hours each year, in program areas ranging from wild horse adoptions to land records management. We are successful in maximizing our resources by forging strong partnerships and outreach programs, and takes a strong proactive approach by involving other federal and local agencies, groups and communities in the management of our programs.

In the pages to follow, you will find brief descriptions of what we do, our major programs and initiatives. Welcome to Eastern States, BLM in the East - Gateway to the West.



Bureau of Land Management Eastern States ³/₄ 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future



Overview

BLM's Eastern States has and will continue to play a central role in fostering the acquisition, management and conservation of public lands and their resources spanning the 31 states east of and bordering the Mississippi River. This area is home to more than half the population of the United States.

Surface Acreage: 30,000

Subsurface Acreage: 39,000,000

Major Programs:

- **Energy and Minerals:** significant source of oil and gas—3,100 active oil and gas wells; major lead and zinc mines in the United States—100 coal and other minerals leases; Federal minerals collections for FY 2001 were \$30.8 million.
- **Cadastral Survey:** Congressionally-mandated survey responsibility for all Federal lands.
- **General Land Office Records:** custodian of official records that document the transfer of Federal land into private ownership—5 million land patents; 130,000 cadastral survey plats, and 5,500 volumes of survey field notes.
- **Lands:** management of widely scattered tracts of land from islands in Minnesota to beachfront in Florida; land use planning; disposition of lighthouse properties relinquished by the U.S. Coast Guard.
- **Renewable Resources:** recreation, cultural resources, and fish and wildlife habitat management.
- **Wild Horses and Burros:** key adoption source for the BLM's National Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program; compliance inspections on untitled adopted animals in 31 Eastern States.
- **Fire:** the only BLM-sponsored Hotshot crew in the eastern United States.

Offices:

Eastern States Headquarters
7450 Boston Boulevard
Springfield, VA 22153

Jackson Field Office
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, MS 39206

Milwaukee Field Office
310 West Wisconsin Ave., Suite 450
Milwaukee, WI 53203



Bureau of Land Management Eastern States ³/₄ 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future

Minerals Management

- We manage 39 million acres of subsurface Federal mineral estate.

- We administer almost 3,200 mineral leases:

- ◆ 3,100 leases are for oil and gas exploration covering 1.8 million acres in 19 states with the heaviest concentration in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia;
- ◆ 100 leases for coal and other minerals such as lead, zinc, limestone and quartz cover about 72,000 acres. Federal coal is mined in Alabama and Kentucky; lead and zinc in Missouri; limestone in Virginia; and quartz in Arkansas.

- A significant post-leasing workload involves approval of drilling and operation plans, and inspection and enforcement for conservation of minerals, production verification, and protection of the environment and public health and safety.

***In Fiscal Year 2001, the
United States
received
\$30.8 million from
3,200 mineral leases
administered by
BLM's Eastern States***

***\$7.1 million
was returned to
State Governments***





Bureau of Land Management Eastern States ¾ 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future

Cadastral Survey

● In 1785 Congress ordered the lands of the vast Northwest Territory, which is now the upper Midwest, be surveyed and sold to generate revenue and encourage western settlement. The General Land Office (GLO) surveyors laid out the rectangular survey system across the Northwest Territory, creating and marking 6-mile square townships over thousands of miles of diverse terrain. The GLO surveyors played a vital role in the growth of the United States.

● Today, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is the agency authorized to determine the official boundaries of the Federal interest lands of the United States. Our cadastral surveyors perpetuate the legacy left by their GLO predecessors by employing the latest innovations in measuring technology to achieve the most accurate boundary information possible. Within the 31 eastern states under the purview of BLM Eastern States Office, our cadastral surveyors perform boundary surveys and provide expertise for Federal agencies.

● We established project offices to conduct surveys and monument the boundaries of National Park lands or rivers, the lands held in trust by the United States for Tribal Nations, and lands on which lighthouses are situated. Locations of project offices and the agencies for which work is being performed are:

- ◆ Maine Project Office - Bureau of Indian Affairs, Old Town, Maine
- ◆ Lac Courte Oreilles Project Office - Bureau of Indian Affairs, Hayward, Wisconsin
- ◆ Upper Mississippi River Project Office - U.S. Army COE, St. Charles, Missouri
- ◆ Washington DC area - National Park Service
- ◆ White Earth Project Office - BIA, Detroit Lake, MN

● Additionally, our cadastral survey staff assist the general public, State agencies, and professional surveyors associations by providing access and interpretation of the cadastral survey plats and field notes; and conduct technical cadastral survey training for professional surveying associations from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, and Ohio.





Bureau of Land Management Eastern States $\frac{3}{4}$ 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future

Fire

- The Jackson Hotshots, an elite wildland firefighting crew, are one of 8 crews sponsored by the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management. They are one of only 70 Hotshot crews designated in the United States and the only such BLM crew in the east.

- In cooperation with the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC), the Jackson Hotshots have established two prototype prescribed burning crew modules. The purpose of these modules is to assist other Interior agencies such as the Fish and Wildlife Service and State agencies with their prescribed fire programs in the southeast. During the 2001-2002 fall and spring seasons the Jackson IHC successfully fielded two eight-man prescribed fire modules. Overall, the Hotshots provided ignition and holding support for approximately 25,000 acres.

- The Jackson Hotshots are recruited locally and over 70% of the crew resides in Mississippi. Since inception in 1997, the crew has fought fires in Mississippi, Texas, Arkansas, Nevada, Montana, Florida, New Mexico, Utah and California.

- Wildfire experience nationwide during the past two years has emphasized the need for increased fire training and has shown the need for greater coordination in training by all agencies. Eastern States developed a regional fire training facility in Pearl, Mississippi with the Mississippi Forestry Commission and U.S. Forest service to train Federal and State wildland firefighters in Southeast.





Bureau of Land Management Eastern States ³/₄ 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future

General Land Office (GLO) Records

● As the successor agency to the original General Land Office, we maintain more than nine million historical land documents — survey plats and field notes, homestead patents, military warrants, and railroad grants. These historic documents were among the very first land records to develop from the Land Ordinance of 1785, which authorized the transfer of public lands to private individuals. Even today, these records are valuable resources for natural resource agencies, historians, and genealogists.



● Increased demand for the records' information and the preservation of the historic documents provided the impetus for the BLM to automate the information and archive the documents. There are 4.2 million land patent records online at www.glorerecords.blm.gov

● The GLO website is a valuable tool for field employees to easily check public land ownership status from their desks. It is also a boon to genealogists tracing family histories through land ownership, since the records date from the late 1780s to the present. The website has received national recognition and numerous awards for its innovation and utility. Project completion of the remaining 2 million records is expected in about 5 years.

● The GLO system has the capability of linking each patent document to land data previously gathered for other Bureau systems. The link permits comparison and validation of information, generating a highly accurate product for the GLO system and future Bureau automated systems.

*In October, 2002 www.glorerecords.blm.gov
received its 151,000,000th hit!*



Bureau of Land Management Eastern States ³/₄ 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future

Lands

Planning

● Resource Management Plans (RMPs) have been implemented or are in process in the following states:

◆ **Alabama, and Mississippi:** RMPs are underway.

◆ **Arkansas, Louisiana:** Approved Planning Analysis for public lands.

◆ **Florida:** Amendment to the Florida RMP is underway addressing improved tract management and lighthouse tracts.

◆ **Wisconsin:** Wisconsin RMP Amendment considers 14 parcels, including four lighthouse tracts.

◆ **Michigan:** RMP Amendment considers two lighthouse tracts.

◆ **New York:** Hi-Tor Planning Analysis to be developed cooperatively with State of New York considers oil and gas leasing on split-estate fluid minerals in Western New York.

◆ **Virginia:** Draft Planning Analysis/ Environmental Assessment for Meadowood Farm completed. Final expected mid-November, 2002.

◆ **Maryland:** Prepared a coordinated management plan with the State of Maryland and Charles County to determine level of use Lower Potomac River planning area.



Jupiter Inlet tract, Florida



Pt. Betsie Lighthouse, Michigan



Bureau of Land Management Eastern States ³/₄ 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future

Acquisitions

- In October, 2001, we acquired an 800 acre land parcel in Fairfax County, Virginia, which will provide open space for a wild horse and burro showcase, recreation, wildlife habitat, and environmental education in the fast-growing Washington, DC urban area. A Planning Analysis is being developed to guide management and is expected to be completed in November, 2002.
- In December, 2001, we acquired with the State of Maryland about 1270 acres of land along the Potomac River in Charles County. This area is one of the last remaining undeveloped tracts along the Potomac River, near fast-growing Washington, DC. It provides outstanding recreation, wildlife habitat, and cultural resources.



Fairfax County, Virginia



Charles County, Maryland

Lighthouses

- We are currently processing transfers of 23 lighthouse properties within three northern states: four in Wisconsin and 19 in Michigan. So far four have been legislatively transferred, one is pending transfer through legislation, eight have been determined to be suitable for return to the BLM, three were determined to be unsuitable for return and referred to GSA for disposal, and suitability determinations are pending on 12 properties.
- The U.S. Coast Guard will relinquish to the BLM another 23 acres at the Jupiter Lighthouse tract in Florida; suitability determinations are pending on five other Florida lighthouse tracts.



Cana Island Lighthouse, Wisconsin



Bureau of Land Management Eastern States ³/₄ 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future

Renewable Resources

- Our Jackson Field Office and the Town of Jupiter have started construction of an interpretive trail in Palm Beach County Florida. The trail will be constructed on land leased to the Town of Jupiter under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. The jointly funded trail will wind through an area of Florida sand pine scrub and highlight the resource values of this rapidly disappearing habitat. Careful trail design and construction scheduling is keeping resource values intact, while allowing the public access to a bit of “the real Florida.”

- Kids’ Fishing Days are annual fishing education events held in Jackson, Mississippi; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and in the Washington, DC area. These activities provide opportunities for urban youth to experience the recreational and educational aspects of responsible angling.



- We manage 87 widely scattered islands, containing approximately 12 acres, in Lake Vermilion and seven smaller lakes in St. Louis County, Minnesota. These islands and other Federal lands in northeast Minnesota were withdrawn under the Shipstead-Newton-Nolan Act of 1930 to conserve the scenic beauty of the shorelines. The islands are cooperatively managed with the Island Stewardship Program and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.



- The Hatfield-McCoy Regional Recreation Authority is developing a 2,000-mile off-highway vehicle (OHV) trail system on privately-owned lands in southern West Virginia. We are continuing to provide trail mapping, design and operational assistance to this project. Over 350 miles of trail are open for recreational use.





Bureau of Land Management Eastern States ³/₄ 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future

- We are helping restore the wetlands at the Jupiter Inlet Natural Area in Florida, promoting the return of manatees and exotic plant removal.
- We have cooperated with local governments during National Public Lands Day to restore and improve habitat and recreation on public lands in Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Virginia, and Wisconsin.
- We have conducted wildlife, plant, forest, woodland and wetland and lake inventories in Arkansas, Florida, Maryland, Mississippi and Virginia. Conducted soils inventories in Alabama, Florida, Michigan, and Mississippi.
- We have initiated a collaborative planning effort to address BLM's only active red-cockaded woodpecker cluster, nesting bald eagles and 10 special status plants straddling public and private land at Lathrop Bayou in Florida



Jupiter Inlet, Florida



Island monitoring at Lake Vermilion, Minnesota



A volunteer plants mangrove seedlings in southern Florida during National Public Lands Day.



Bureau of Land Management Eastern States ³/₄ 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future

Wild Horse and Burro Adoptions

- The Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971 directs BLM to manage and protect wild horses and burros on public lands. With no natural predators and a reproduction rate over 20%, wild horse and burro populations have increased dramatically since enactment of the Act.

- The current population of more than 45,000 wild horses and burros on public lands exceeds the rangeland carrying capacity of 27,000. This has resulted in degraded habitat and conflicts with other uses, such as wildlife and grazing. The Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program is the primary tool which BLM uses to place excess animals and reduce populations of wild horses and burros to a level compatible with the natural environment and other uses.



- We administer the Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program throughout our 31-state jurisdiction. In Fiscal Year 2002, we held 35 adoption events and adopted about 2,875 animals to qualified adopters. We play a major role for the Bureau by adopting more animals than any other BLM office.

- The National Wild Horse and Burro Strategy goal to reach appropriate management levels on rangelands relies heavily upon our adoption program to place excess animals. In addition to adoption, we ensure that animals are cared for humanely through a diligent compliance program, averaging about 2,000 inspections per year.

- An innovative addition to our adoption program is our Internet Adoptions. The web site, www.adoptahorse.blm.gov received over 250,000 hits in 2002 and continues to receive about 500 hits a day.

- In conjunction with our wild horse and burro adoption program, we present numerous environmental education and other outreach activities to thousands of equine enthusiasts to tell them about their public lands and resources and the mission of BLM.





Bureau of Land Management Eastern States ³/₄ 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future

Environmental Education and Outreach

More than two-thirds of the United States population live in the 31 eastern states. We have initiated an active and dynamic Environmental Education and Outreach Program to bring the BLM message to this major segment of our population.

- We are a pioneer in National Public Lands Day, having had one of the three initial sites when this event began in 1994. In 2002, we had six sites in 4 states and the District of Columbia as part of 500 sites nationwide. This event brings together public spirited volunteers of all ages and backgrounds for a day of service and environmental education on our public lands.



National Public Lands Day, Virginia

- We are a partner with Piney Woods School in Mississippi, a distinguished historic Black boarding school. We further natural resources education by having BLM employees teach at the school. Also we have a cooperatively managed wild horse and burro holding facility at the school. During each summer since 1992, Eastern States has conducted a 2-week Environmental Education Camp at Piney Woods.

- We are a partner with the Urban Tree House program in Washington, DC and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Urban Tree House is a national environmental education program for urban youth.

- We are a partner with the Mississippi Museum of Natural History in a new permanent interactive exhibit 'Fire in the Ecosystem,' that opened April, 2002. Besides being viewed by thousands of visitors, every fifth grade student in Mississippi tours the Museum each year as part of the state science curriculum.

- We are a leader in the Washington, DC Wonderful Outdoor World (WOW), a partnership of Federal, state and local agencies, corporate, and nonprofit community organizations. WOW provides environmental education and outdoor recreation to urban youth ages 8-12.



WOW Camp Out



Bureau of Land Management Eastern States ³/₄ 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future

Partnerships



- We were one of the founding partners of the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC), an organization comprised of highly trained public lands professionals from the eastern United States that provides a collaborative forum for enhancing land stewardship and conservation. We provide administrative assistance to their Executive Board and also support the annual joint ELRC/Western States Land Commissioners Association (WSLCA) meeting held in Washington, DC.
- Together with the Governor of Mississippi, we distributed a Wild Horse & Burro CD describing the BLM's Adopt a Wild Horse or Burro Program to all county libraries in Mississippi. Additionally, we have a long-standing relationship with the Kentucky Horse Park to maintain a display in their Visitor Center showcasing the history of wild horses and BLM's role in managing wild horse herds on the public lands. The Kentucky Horse Park features the wild horse in their daily "Parade of Breeds" and supports the Mustang Troop, an equestrian drill team which pairs inner-city youth with tamed mustangs. Also, the Heart of Florida Girl Scout Council has adopted wild horses for a mustang troop and plans to replace their original domestic horses with wild ones.
- The Jupiter Natural Area, Area of Critical Environmental Concern is being managed cooperatively by BLM, Florida's Palm Beach County, the Village of Tequesta, and the Town of Jupiter; also, we work with the Walton County, Florida Tourism Commission to resolve issues related to the Recreation and Public Purposes Act.
- We are one of five federal agencies represented in Milwaukee, Wisconsin's America's Outdoors Center. This partnership was established to provide recreation information, and actively participate in local conservation, and environmental education programs for the public.
- We rely on a seasonal position shared with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Island Stewardship Program to maintain litter-free recreational areas on the Lake Vermilion Islands in Minnesota.
- We actively participate in the Michigan Lighthouse Project (MLP), an organization established to facilitate transfer of Michigan lighthouse properties and assist in establishing priorities. The MLP is an aggregation of Federal and State agencies, nonprofit organizations and Federal and State legislative representatives who have a role/interest in the preservation and transfer of these historic maritime properties.





Bureau of Land Management Eastern States ³/₄ 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future



Eastern States Leadership Team

- Mike Nedd, State Director (703) 440-1700
- Walt Rewinski, Acting Associate State Director (703) 440-1700
 - ◆ John Silence, Special Agent In Charge, Law Enforcement (303) 239-3803 (Colorado-based)
 - ◆ Terry Lewis, Chief, Office of External Affairs (703) 440-1713
 - ◆ Jinx Fox, Wild Horse and Burro Program Manager (703) 440-1560
 - ◆ Charles Bush, Acting Manager, Lower Potomac Field Station (703) 440-1745
 - ◆ Walt Rewinski, Deputy State Director, Resources Planning, Use and Protection (703) 440-1727
 - ◆ Theresa R. Coleman, Deputy State Director, Support Services (703) 440-1550
 - ◆ Stephen Douglas, Deputy State Director, Cadastral Survey and GLO Records (703) 440-1688
- Bruce Dawson, Field Office Manager, Jackson, Mississippi (601) 977-5400
- Jim Dryden, Field Office Manager, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (414) 297-4400



Bureau of Land Management Eastern States ³/₄ 2002

Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future

Number of Eastern States Employees

● State Office, Springfield, Virginia	125
● Jackson Field Office	68
● Milwaukee Field Office	46
● Total Number of Employees	239

Funding for Eastern States

Most of our operating budget comes from congressionally-appropriated funds. We also receive funding through agreements with public and private partners for other work done within our geographic jurisdiction, either on a reimbursable basis or through matching fund arrangements. These projects cover such program areas as wildlife, recreational trails, and cadastral survey (boundary surveys). We collect more money than we receive in our annual budget, specifically through mineral leasing. All the revenues we generate are sent to the U.S. Treasury.

Funding Levels (figures in thousands of dollars)

	<u>FY 2001</u>	<u>FY 2002</u>
● Energy and Minerals	5,082	5,204
● Lands/Realty/Cadastral Survey	4,714	4,562
● Renewable Resources	1,018	1,321
● General Administration	3,520	3,544
● Fire Management	631	778
● Wild Horses and Burros	3,781	3,768
● Acquisitions	3045	3,074
● Resource Protection	632	888
● Total Budget (BLM appropriated funds).....	23,342	23,139